



33082R003

PATENT
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
AFTER FINAL STATUS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : NANBU, et al.

Serial No. : 09/233,073

Examiner: Vinh, L.

Filed : January 19, 1999

Group Art Unit: 1765

For : METHOD OF ETCHING

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action of April 24, 2000, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 7-10 as follows:

7. The etching method according to claim 1, wherein a flow of etchant is provided at a flow rate which produces a flow [rate] diverging position with respect to an outer periphery of an object being etched that is substantially at or internal to the outer periphery of the object being etched.

8. The etching method according to claim 2, wherein a flow of etchant is provided at a flow rate which produces a flow [rate] diverging position with respect to an outer periphery of an object being etched that is substantially at or internal to the outer periphery of the object being etched.